

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-4, 6-15 and 17-23 are pending in the application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 6, 11, 13, 14 and 20 are amended and new claim 23 is added. Various amendments are made to the claims for clarity, and are unrelated to issues of patentability.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3-4, 6-9, 11-15 and 17-22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent 6,597,918 to Kim in view of U.S. Patent 5,673,259 to Quick, Jr. (hereafter Quick) and newly-cited U.S. Patent 6,185,208 to Liao. The Office Action also rejects claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kim, Quick, Liao and U.S. Patent 6,208,859 to Halvorson. The rejections are respectfully traversed with respect to the pending claims.

Independent claim 1 recites that the connection information comprises first connection information for informing there is a respective divided text message connected to a rear of the first connection information, and second connection information for informing there is the respective divided text message connected to a front of the second connection information. Independent claim 1 also recites the first connection information also for informing a connection of the respective divided text message with another one of the divided text messages and the second connection information also for informing a connection of the respective divided text message with a further one of the divided text messages, wherein for a first divided text message among the divided text messages, the connection information is inserted into only an end portion of the first divided text message, the end portion being an end to be connected to a next divided text message.

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The Office Action states (on page 3) that Kim does not disclose first connection information for informing that there is the divided text message connected in rear of the connection information, and second connection information for informing there is the divided text message connected in front of the connection information. The Office Action then relies on Quick's Figure 8 and col. 14, lines 48-67 as showing a flag octet 802 (that allegedly corresponds to the claimed first connection information) and a second flag octet 810 (that allegedly corresponds to the claimed second connection information). The Office Action asserts that it would have been obvious to modify Kim to include the features of Quick so as to provide an identifier at the beginning and the end of a segmented message string. Accordingly, the Office Action appears to allege that it would have been obvious to modify Kim to include the first octet flag 802 and the second octet flag 810.

Applicants respectfully submit that this combination of Kim and Quick is improper. For example, Kim explicitly describes an SMS header that includes a message identification and a sequence number. See col. 3, lines 34-43. On the other hand, Quick discloses flags 802 and 810 at a beginning and an end of a message 606. See Figure 8. The flags sequence a unique bit sequence in the form of "01111110," for example. Quick also explicitly describes that the second flag octet 810 is the same as the first flag octet 802. Applicants respectfully submit that there is no suggestion to modify Kim's SMS header to include identical bit sequences at the beginning and end of a divided message. This modification would destroy the express purpose of Kim of having an SMS header. Additionally, applicants respectfully submit the Office Action is relying on impermissible hindsight as there is no motivation to make the alleged combination.

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The Office Action also asserts (on page 4) that Kim and Quick fail to disclose first connection information also for informing a connection with another one of the divided text messages and the second connection information also for informing a connection with a further one of the divided text messages. The Office Action cites Liao's col. 5, lines 43-47 as allegedly showing these missing features. However, this section of Liao merely shows that series numbers may be provided for respective sub-messages. This does not teach or suggest first connection information also for informing a connection of the respective divided text message with another one of the divided text messages and the second connection information also for informing a connection of the respective divided text messages with a further one of the divided text messages. Liao's series numbers do not inform a connection of a respective divided text message with another one of the divided text message and a further one of the divided text message.

Additionally, there is no suggestion to modify the Kim and Quick combination, which is alleged in the Office Action to include a first octet flag (as corresponding to the first connection information) and a second octet flag (corresponding to the second connection information), so as to include series numbers as discussed in Liao. In other words, there is no suggestion to modify a structure having a first octet flag and a second octet flag at a beginning and an end so as to include series numbers (as alleged in Liao) in order to obtain the claimed features. In other words, there is no suggestion to include series numbers at beginning and ends of divided messages. Accordingly, the alleged combination of Kim, Quick and Liao does not teach or suggest all the features of independent claim 1.

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Independent claim 6 recites the connection information comprises first connection information representing that there is one divided text message connected to a rear of the first connection information, and second connection information representing that there is the one divided text message connected to a front of the second connection information. Independent claim 6 further recites the first connection information representing a connection of the one divided text message with another one of the divided text messages and the second connection information representing a connection of the one divided text message with a further one of the divided text messages. For at least similar reasons as set forth above, the applied references do not teach or suggest these features. Thus, independent claim 6 defines patentable subject matter.

Independent claim 11 recites wherein no connection information at a start of a respective divided text message indicates the respective divided text message is a first divided text message and no connection information at an end portion of the respective divided text message indicates the respective text message is a last divided text message. Independent claim 11 also recites that the connection information comprises first connection information to inform that there is a respective divided text message connected to a rear of the first connection information, and second connection information to inform that there is the respective divided text message connected to a front of the second connection information. Still further, independent claim 11 recites the first connection information to inform a connection of the respective divided text message with a previous one of the divided text messages and the second connection information to inform a connection of the respective divided text message with a subsequent one of the divided text messages. For at least similar reasons as set forth above, the applied

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references do not teach or suggest these features. Thus, independent claim 11 defines patentable subject matter.

Independent claim 13 recites that a respective divided message that does not include inserted connection information in a first position of the respective divided message is a first divided message and a respective divided message that does not include inserted connection information in an end position of the respective divided message is a last divided message, wherein the connection information comprises first connection information for informing there is a respective divided message connected to a rear of the first connection information, and second connection information for informing there is the respective divided message connected to a front of the second connection information. Independent claim 13 also recites the first connection information also for informing a connection of the respective divided text message with another one of the divided messages and the second connection information also for informing a connection of the respective divided text message with a further one of the divided messages. For at least similar reasons as set forth above, the applied references do not teach or suggest these features. Thus, independent claim 13 defines patentable subject matter.

Independent claim 19 recites inserting an end connection code at an end position of a respective divided message to indicate an end of the respective divided message and that another divided message follows the respective divided message and inserting a start connection code at a start position of the respective divided message to indicate a start of the respective divided message and that a further divided message precedes the respective divided message. For at least similar reasons as set forth above, the applied references do not teach or suggest these features.

Additionally, Liao's series numbers do not indicate that a divided message follows the respective divided message and that a further divided message precedes the respective divided message. Thus, independent claim 19 defines patentable subject matter.

For at least the reasons set forth above, each of independent claims 1, 6, 11, 13 and 19 defines patentable subject matter. Each of the dependent claims depends from one of the independent claims and therefore defines patentable subject matter at least for this reason. In addition, the dependent claims recite features that further and independently distinguish over the applied references.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of claims 1, 3-4, 6-15 and 17-23 are earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Serial No. **09/987,100**

Docket No. **K-0337**

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To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: February 27, 2006

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